

REMARKS

This is in response to the Official Action mailed on January 11, 2007, and entry of this Amendment along with the election of inventions and species is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has required election between what he has established as three groups. Group I comprises claims 1-6; Group II comprises claims 7-18; and Group III comprises claims 22-27. Claims 19-21 have been withdrawn.

The Applicant hereby provisionally elects the invention in Group II, specifically claims 7-18 drawn to a vaporization system, as set out in the Office Action.

In addition, the Applicant has amended claims 1-6 and claims 22-27 in a manner that makes all of these claims directed to the same invention as that set forth in claims 7-18, namely to a vaporization system that includes a vaporization chamber, and a heated surface member that is used for vaporizing the material introduced into the chamber.

Claim 1 thus includes the system elements of claim 7, and is more detailed to the atomizer that provides the gas stream into the vaporization chamber. Claim 1 includes the outer housing defining the chamber, and a heated surface member in the chamber, wherein material in the gas stream is vaporized by heat from the heated surface member.

In regard to independent claim 22, the heated surface member is recited, and is more specific than claim 7 but includes the same system elements. Claim 22 specifies that the heated surface member comprises a metal block having a plurality of passageways therethrough providing heated surfaces. It further includes the features of the bore that aligns with the inlet, and specifies that the aerosol droplets are vaporized by the heated surfaces of the metal block.

Claims 23-27 all depend from claim 22 and thus are believed in the same invention group.

Again, the provisional election is for claims 7-18, but it is now believed that all of claims 1-18 and 22-27 are in the same invention group.

In regard to the election of Species, the Applicant hereby provisionally elects the Species of FIG. 4, if no generic claim is allowable. The claims readable on the Species of FIG. 4, include claims 1-10, 12, 14-17, and 19-27. It is noted that the Species of FIG. 4 can utilize the vaporization chamber shown in FIG. 7 which is defined in the combination claims 22-27. Thus it is respectfully submitted that these claims will be applicable to the elected Species.

In the Amendment, claim 16 has been amended also to use the word "process chamber" as illustrated in FIG. 4, other amendments have been made for the sake of clarity and antecedent basis.

Again, the provisional election is made to the invention Group II and is now respectfully believed that claims 1-6 and claims 22-27 are in the same group along with claims 7-18, as pointed out above.


Claims 19, 20 and 21 have been withdrawn.

Favorable action on the claims elected, which now include not only claims 7-18, but also claims 1-6 and claims 22-27, is respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to deposit account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By: 

Nicholas E. Westman, Reg.No. 20,147
Suite 1400
900 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

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